

REMARKS

Claims 1, 6-9, 12-17, 19-23, and 25-26 are presently pending. Of these, Claims 9, 12-15, 17, 25 and 26 are withdrawn from consideration. Support for amendments to Claims 1, 9 and 19 is found in the original claims as filed. Minor amendments are made to other claims to make properly dependent on pending claims. No new matter has been added herewith. The following addresses the substance of the Office Action.

Obviousness

Claims 1-4, 6-8 16 and 19-23 were rejected to under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mayer (U.S. Patent No. 4,778,575) in view of Lehmkuhl et al. (2001 *Adv Eng Matl* 3:4121-417). The Applicants note that the Examiner also indicated at item 4 of the Office Action that Claim 5 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Without acquiescing, and solely to expedite prosecution of the application, the Applicants have amended Claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of Claims 2-5. Withdrawn Claim 9 is similarly amended. Accordingly, the amended claims are in compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). As such, the Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

No Disclaimers or Disavowals

Although the present communication may include alterations to the application or claims, or characterizations of claim scope or referenced art, Applicant is not conceding in this application that previously pending claims are not patentable over the cited references. Rather, any alterations or characterizations are being made to facilitate expeditious prosecution of this application. Applicant reserves the right to pursue at a later date any previously pending or other broader or narrower claims that capture any subject matter supported by the present disclosure, including subject matter found to be specifically disclaimed herein or by any prior prosecution. Accordingly, reviewers of this or any parent, child or related prosecution history shall not reasonably infer that Applicant has made any disclaimers or disavowals of any subject matter supported by the present application.

Application No.: 10/573,519
Filing Date: January 31, 2007

Co-Pending Applications of Assignee

Applicant wishes to draw the Examiner's attention to the following co-pending applications of the present application's assignee.

| Docket No. | Serial No. | Title | Filed |
|----------------|------------|--|-------------|
| FLGDK21.008APC | 10/578796 | COATING OF SUBSTRATES | 10-Apr-2007 |
| FLGDK21.009APC | 12/517006 | ELECTROLYTE FOR THE GALVANIC DEPOSITION OF ALUMINIUM FROM APROTIC SOLVENTS IN A PLATING BARREL | 07-Aug-2009 |

CONCLUSION

In view of Applicants' amendments to the Claims and the foregoing Remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any remaining concerns which might prevent the prompt allowance of the application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number appearing below.


Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

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